[Mr. P. Govinda Menon]
In fact, the local procurement has been more than in any previous year. It is on account of the most unfortunate accident of the non-arrival of the steamer.

മിസ്റ്റർ എം. ഒ. തോമക്കുട്ടി. സ്റ്റീമർ വല്ലപ്പോഴും വരാതിരുന്നാൽ സ്റ്റീമർ വരുന്നതു വരെ ക്ഷാമം കൂടാതെ കഴിക്കുവാനായിട്ടുള്ള ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങൾ എപ്പോഴും കരുതിവെച്ചിരിക്കേണ്ടതല്ലെ?

Mr. President : There is no discussion on this matter in this House. Any point made in the statement will be elucidated. We are not raising a discussion.

Mr. K. Balakrishna Menon (*Cheruthuruthi*)*:* I have already tabled an adjournment motion to discuss the very question. I would suggest that it would be better to reserve all discussions to that occasion.

Mr. President : That is what I said. There is no discussion now. Certain adjournment motions have been received just 3 or 4 minutes before 11-30 today. The usual practice has been that the adjournment motions reach the Secretary or the President half-an hour at least before the meeting.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*)*:* No.

Mr. President: Will the Hon'ble Member have patience to hear me? Therefore, I had no time to look into the question of admissibility with three or four minutes before me. Therefore, whether they are admissible or not, decision on that will be given by me tomorrow.

6. Presentation of Budget

Mr. K. Govinda Menon *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to present the budget estimate for 1123. In doing so, I would at the very outset, crave the indulgence of the House due to one who has, for the first time in his career, the honour and the privilege of presenting the budget.

Thanks to the far-sightedness of our gracious Maharaja we have the Cabinet form of Government in our State and the budget has had the unique distinction, for the first time in the annals of the State, of bearing the *imprimatur* of this body after full discussions. The responsibility in the scrutiny of the budget has also been further shared by the members of the Standing Finance Committee elected by the Legislature. My work has, in these circumstances, been considerably lightened by the scrutiny by two bodies representing the Legislature and these are important factors which would, no doubt, ensure an easy passage for the budget. As it is quite unnecessary for me to repeat in full the details contained in my Memorandum, I propose to refer only to the more important features that merit attention.

Actuals—1121.—Time-honoured custom requires me to refer in brief detail to the actuals of the past yeer before I enter into the current year. According to the budget estimate the year was expected to close with a net surplus of Rs. 6·77 lakhs; the actuals, however, gave us a surplus of Rs. 42·27 lakhs owing te unexpected increase in revenue under Salt, Income-tax, Railway, etc., and savings in expenditure mainly under Forest, Education and Public Works. The contribution to the Government of India under Central Excise duties like Betel-nut, etc., did not also come up for payment. Of the surplus, a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs was transferred to the Revenue Reserve Fund and Rs. 5 lakhs to the Industrial Development Fund.

Revised estimate 1122.—When framing the budget estimate for the current year, we counted on a total realisation of revenue of Rs. 357·07 lakhs and programmed for an expenditure of Rs. 354·38 lakhs leaving a surplus of Rs. 2·69 lakhs. On the basis of the actuals so far collected and other relevant information available we hope to realise Rs. 374·69 lakhs—an improvement of Rs. 17·62 lakhs and expect to spend Rs. 372·95 lakhs thus closing with a smaller surplus than originally anticipated. Even though the anticipations of revenue from Sales-tax proved to be disappointing owing to the large number of exemptions, the loss has been more than made up by collection of arrears of Excess Profits Tax and the larger revenue fetched from Stamps, Forests and Tramway and the Vehicles taxation.

The year witnessed striking changes. First and foremost is the introduction of the Cabinet system of Government, with most of the departments of the State transferred to the control of the four popular Ministers and the creation of the convention of joint discussions and decisions by the Cabinet.

The adoption of the system of adult franchise and the organisation of an Election department to cope with the increased work resulting therefrom and to conduct Municipal and Panchayat Elections more efficiently, the creation of a new department of Libraries for better organisation of rural libraries, so necessary for the approach to our goal of universal education, the complete overhaul of the Public Works department to make it as efficient as possible, so that

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